

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/801,603	MOTOUCHI, KAZUO
Examiner	Art Unit
Luis Roman	2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 11/17/06.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-7 and 13-17.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None of the:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

***Reasons for Allowance***

Examiner acknowledges a submission of the amendment filed on 11/17/06. Claim 7 has been kept original, claims 6 has been amended, claims 5 & 13-17 have been previously presented and no claims have been cancelled. No new claims were added. It also included remarks/arguments.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

**Claim 5:** the closest references are: "Ion Generator for a Combustion Device" Motouchi US Patent 5977716 issued on November 02, 1999 and "Modular Glow/Corona Discharge Device" Kanter US Statutory Invention Registration H286) published on June 02, 1987

These patents disclose:

Motouchi'716: an ion generator but not with the exact claimed configuration of poles and its parts. The ion generator with sawtooth-like pointed ends arranged linearly (Figs. 6, 7 element 32).

Kanter'H286 discloses a corona discharge surface treating method with a similar casing and with an intake and exhaust and further discloses a cylindrical inner electrode (Fig. 1 element 19) and the plate-like poles place around the cylindrical one (Fig. 1 elements 21).

The references do not disclose:

The first pole pointed ends extending in a direction away from the second pole and not toward it.

As a result for claims 6-7 & 13-17 the allowability resides, at least in part, in the above-described limitations, in combination with the other elements of each of the claims, which has not been disclosed in or rendered obvious by the Prior Art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

***Conclusion***

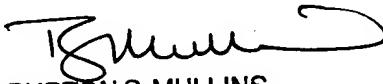
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luis E. Román whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 5527. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 7:15 AM to 3:45 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 x 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Luis E. Román  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2836

LR/012507

  
BURTON S. MULLINS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER